

CLAIMS

5 1. A message broker data processing apparatus comprising:

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A // means for receiving published messages on a topic from a plurality of publisher applications;

10 means for processing the received messages; and

means for distributing the processed messages to a subscriber application;

15 wherein the means for receiving includes a plurality of publication point data processing nodes, each of which receives published messages on said topic from a publisher application.

20 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus communicates with a subscriber application over the Internet and wherein at least one of the subscriber applications and the publisher application runs in conjunction with a World Wide Web browser.

25 3. ~~The~~ apparatus of claim 1 wherein the broker performs different processing on published messages according to

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the publication point on which said published messages are published.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein messages in different formats are published on different publication points, and the processing associated with each publication point is used to render the messages into a standard format available at a subscription point.

5. A message broker data processing method comprising steps of:

receiving published messages on a topic from a plurality of publisher applications;

processing the received messages; and

distributing the processed messages to a subscriber application;

wherein the receiving step is carried out via a plurality of publication point data processing nodes, each of which receives messages on said topic from a publisher application.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the broker performs different processing on published messages according to

the publication point on which said published messages are published.

5 7. The method of claim 6 wherein messages in different formats are published on different publication points, and the processing associated with each publication point is used to render the messages into a standard format available at a subscription point.

10 8. A computer program product stored on a computer readable storage medium for, when run on a computer, instructing the computer to carry out the method steps recited in claim 5.

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